

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application. Claims 5-6, 9-11, 17-19, 36, 43, 48, and 55 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-4, 7-8, 12-16, 20-35, 37-42, 44-47, 49-54, and 56- 70 are canceled. Claims 5, 6, 9, 17, 19, 36, 43, 48, and 55 are currently amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejected claims 20, 22-24, 28, 30-31 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Hall et al. (U.S. 2004/0213324).

The Office Action rejected claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Endo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,650,193).

The Office Action rejected claims 20, 28 and 59-61 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sha et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,980,581).

Response to Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Applicant has canceled these claims to overcome the examiner's rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejected claims 1-3, 7-8, 12-16, 20, 25-27, 32-35, 37-42, 44-47, 49-54 and 56-58 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sha in view of Endo.

The Office Action rejected claims 21 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sha and Endo as applied to claim 20 or 28 above.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clementi (U.S. Patent No. 6,294,936) in view of Endo.

The Office Action rejected claims 60 and 65-67 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sha as applied to claim 59 above, and further in view of Parikh (U.S. Patent No. 7,061,331).

Response to Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Applicant has canceled these claims to overcome the examiner's rejection.

Allowable subject matter

Claims 5, 6, 9-11, 17-19, 36, 43, 48, and 55 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to allowable claims


Applicant has rewritten these claims in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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